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GOV. NAPOLITANO PROCLAIMS OCTOBER 1ST 'LUIS GONZALEZ DAY' Final Baseball Game for 'Gonzo' as Arizona Diamondback

PHOENIX – As veteran left fielder Luis "Gonzo" Gonzalez prepares to wear an Arizona Diamondbacks uniform for the last time, Governor Janet Napolitano proclaimed Sunday, October 1, 2006 as "Luis Emilio Gonzalez Day."

"Gonzo has provided us with some of the best moments baseball fans could ever ask for," said Napolitano. "From being such a critical part of the 2001 World Series Championship, to his work in the community and with Arizona youth, he has truly been an asset to our state."

Since the 1999 season, Gonzalez has delighted baseball fans in Arizona, becoming part of a record-breaking ball club. In 2001, one of the most memorable seasons in recent baseball history, Gonzalez had a bottom of the ninth, World Series clinching hit against the New York Yankees in Game 7, a nail-biting series that put the Diamondbacks in the record books as the youngest franchise ever to win the World Series. That was also the same season Gonzalez hit a career high 57 home runs.

"He's been an amazing player, and an integral part of America's pastime. We will miss him at Chase Field," added Napolitano, an avid baseball and sports fan.